would colour it with other pretences, your end was an ambitious seeking of the crown, the hope whereof for your own raising made these men to follow, animate and applaud >ou , so that if *by* a true confession and unfeigned repentance you do not unburthen yourself of these sins, you shall carry out of the world a guilty soul before God, and leave upon your memorial an infamous name to posterity *

These speeches of his chaplain, and many more besides, have so wrought upon the Earl that he hath sent to Lord Thomas Howard, Constable of the Tower, to move her Majesty to send to him the Lord Keeper, the Lord Treasurer, the Lord Admiral and Secretary Cecil, that he may now discharge his conscience

zist February ESSEX'S CONFESSIONS

To-day the Queen acceded to the Earl of Esse^s request that the four Lords of the Council should go to him, and before them he declared that Mr Ashton had ploughed up his heart, and brought him down, and humbled him Hereupon with great pemtency he confessed his sorrow for his obstinate denials at the bar, desiring he might have liberty to set down in writing his whole project of coming to the Court He confesseth how to divers of his followers directions were given to seize the Court, which being accomplished, he with the Earls of Southampton and Rutland and other noblemen should have gone into the Queen , and then having her in their possession, to have used the shadow of her authority for the changing of the Govern- ment, and called a parliament, and condemned all those whom they charged to have misgoverned the State

He also earnestly desired that he might speak with Cuffe, his secretary, against whom he complained as having been a

principal instigator to the violent courses which he had under-
taken He protested that he chiefly desired to show that he was
not the only persuader of the great offences which they had
committed but that Blount, Cuffe, Temple and those others
who were at the pnvate conspiracy at Drury House, had more
dangerous and malicious ends for the disturbance of the State
than could have been prevented if his project had gone forward,
as appears by the confusion they drew him to, even in his **crwn**
house, the morning that he went into the City